

## AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

—Please amend the specification of the present application as set forth below. In accordance with the PTO's revised amendment format, changes are shown by strikethrough (for deleted matter) or underlining (for added matter).

5

Please replace the paragraph starting at page 1, line 5, under the heading RELATED APPLICATIONS, with the following amended paragraph:

This application is related to a simultaneously filed application entitled

10 "Data Structure and Method for Tracking Network Topology in a Fibre Channel Port Driver ", identified as Serial No. 09/642,800 ~~[XX/XXX,XXX]~~ and attorney docket number ~~P00-3221~~. This application is also related to a

al

simultaneously filed application entitled "Method for Recovery of Paths Between Storage Area Network Nodes with Probationary Period and

15 Desperation Repair", identified as Serial No. 09/642,801 ~~[XX/XXX,XXX]~~ and attorney docket number ~~P00-3222~~.

Please replace the paragraph starting at page 14, line 1, with the following amended section:

For example, portions of the driver 104 and topology database 132 may reside in main memory devices 200 (figure 2), ~~cache~~ caches 202 and 204, or

5 disk memory 206 of the computer system. The driver 104 may execute in a first 208 or an additional 210 processor of the node. Typically, one or more fibre channel N\_ports (node ports) are located on a host bus adapter (HBA) 212 attached to the computer system. Portions of the driver 104 and topology database 132 may also reside in local memory (not shown) of the

10 HBA 212, for execution by an embedded processor (not shown) of the HBA. There may be an additional HBA 214, or an additional port of the HBA 212. The one or more levels of cache memory 204, main memory 200, local disk 206 of the node, and local memory of the HBA, together form a memory system of the node, which stores the driver and the network topology

15 database.